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LETTER

TO

EDM. FRANCIS CALZE;

IN ANSWER TO

HIS LETTER of the 14th of JANUARY,
Published in the MORNING POST,

AND ADDRESSED TO THE

Right Hon. LORD LYTTELTON;

*Not the great Lord Lyttelton, but his infamous
is, defended him by a noble Paraphrase, &c. &c. of
the Morning Post.*

RARO ANTECEDENTEM SCHOLITUM
DESERUIT PEDE POENA CLAUDO.

HON.

*Edwards on his back of the Painter, is an offender, & himself
shoulder his gun, rather a more powerful account of Calze*

[C 1774]

OT

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

AND ASSIGNED TO THE

RIGHTS OF LORD KELTON

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C.



For the MORNING POST.

TO THE

Right Hon. LORD LYTTELTON.

MY LORD,

AN Accident prevented my being a Witness to the extraordinary Evidence which you delivered in Behalf of Mr. Lemaister, in a Cause which was this Day determined in my Favour, against that *Honourable Gentleman* in the Court of Common-Pleas. Had I been present, I should neither have given you or myself the Trouble of a Public Address; nor should I now

have presumed to occupy the Corner of a News-Paper, with a Subject so despicable as your Lordship, unless I was precluded from every Possibility of Access to your Presence, by having my Name written in Italics on the List of your Creditors. My *Respect* — my *Veneration* for your Honourable Father, hath hitherto sealed my Lips, and prevented my exhibiting a Portrait to the Public more infamous than ever disgraced a British Senate, or disturbed the Peace of Society.

SELF-PRESERVATION, my Lord, is the first Principle of Nature; and as you are not content with invading my Property, but have likewise commenced Hostilities against my Reputation, you may be assured that I will protect the one with the same Spirit that I shall defend the other.

You was pleased to declare upon Oath, that I enlisted in your Train in

a menial Capacity; that I was your Valet, your Post-boy, or your Football, but in this, my Lord, you stand p^{er}~~jure~~, or bear Testimony to a Meanness which none but your Lordship would avow. Many of the most respectable Characters in this Kingdom, to whom you have introduced me as your *Friend*, would with Reason think themselves insulted if the Description with which you have honoured me was in any Degree consistent with Truth. But I will acquit your Lordship of this Charge by publishing what you dare not deny. When my evil Genius introduced me to your Acquaintance you found me by Birth, Education, and Principle, a *Gentleman*: as an Artist I had studied under Sig. Baldrighi, and was patronized by the Duke of Parma. I still enjoy the Benefit of my *Prince's* *Liberality*, and I hope, in Spite of your Lordship's Malice, I shall continue to reap the Benefit of my *Master's* *Instructions*.

THE

THE Hope of having this inserted in To-morrow's Paper, obliges me, for the present, to take Leave of your Lordship, with an Assurance that your Memory shall, in a few Days, be refreshed to certain Anecdotes, which will entertain the Public with their Novelty, and awaken your Lordship to what you have been long dead, *a Sense of Shame!*

NASSAU-STREET,
Feb. 14, 1774.

E. F. CALZE.



ADVERTISEMENT.

WHEN anonymous Publications are personally applied, they are in general considered by the candid Part of Mankind as very little deserving either of Credit or Attention; it is therefore with great Reluctance that I presume to lay the following Letter before the Public without the Sanction of a Name. But I hope that in this ⁱⁿ almost every other Case of general Observation, an Exception may be admitted; and, that the Motive which induces me to embark in a troubled Sea, will entitle me to the Candour of the Public, and excuse what I cannot possibly avoid; the Liberty of appearing for the present in a Mask.

IT was my unlucky Fate to be particularly connected with Mr. Calze, when the Evidence was given which occasioned his publicly addressing a Letter to Lord Lyttelton. And I must confess to the Reproach of my Discernment, that I believed him to be an honest inoffensive Man; that he was
oppressed

oppressed by Lord Lyttelton, and that his Lordship's Representation of his Character was unjust. Strongly prejudiced with this Opinion, I took an active Part in his Defence; and with a Zeal more expressive of Generosity than Judgment or Prudence, endeavoured to impress the Public with the same Opinion. But a little longer Acquaintance with Mr. Galze, and a more particular Conversation with him upon the Subject convinced me, that in every Circumstance of Information, he had practised upon me the grossest Imposition; that he professed every Principle, and possessed every Quality which honest Men detest; and, that if Lord Lyttelton had done any Wrong, it was to the Public; — by suffering such a Wretch to mix with Society without a Mark.

HAVING thus contributed to the Aspersions of his Lordship's Character, and contrary to my Intention been guilty of an Imposition upon the Public, I thought it indispensibly incumbent upon me to make this Atonement to the one, and at the same Time to undeceive the other: And whatever may be the Opinion of my Readers, I can with Truth profess, that I am much happier in the CONFESSION, than I could possibly have been in the DEFENCE of my Error.



LETTER

TO

EDMUND FRANCIS CALZE, &c.

S. I. R,

MANY Months are elapsed since the Publication of your extraordinary Address to Lord Lyttelton, without the least Appearance of your fulfilling the PROMISE with which that Address was concluded; I shall therefore presume that you have nothing more to say upon the Subject, and from this fair Construction of your Silence, take the Liberty to offer my Sentiments upon the Indecency and Ingratitude of your Behaviour to his Lordship; and the Insolence and Impertinence with which you have treated the Public. But whatever Reply the Expressions of your Letter may draw from my Pen,

A

I

I shall endeavour to prevent any future Trouble either to the Public or myself, by a careful Avoidance of the Folly you have committed ; and instead of relying upon the mere Force of Words, or the Effrontery of unsupported Assertions, confine myself to such Observations upon your Merit, as are supported by the unanswerable Argument of Facts.

THE Letter which you have publicly addressed to Lord Lyttelton, if uttered by the Voice of Truth, contains sufficient Matter to induce the World to decide very severely upon his Conduct ; but if the Accusations you have brought against him have no Foundation, your Offence is of so black a Nature, that you will justly deserve every Punishment which the Resentment of the Public, or the Rigour of the Law can inflict. This, I doubt not, will be the Opinion of every Reader of your Letter, from which one Inference only can be drawn, — “ THAT LORD ~~LYTTELTON~~ OR YOU ARE A DISGRACE TO HUMAN NATURE.”

THE first Entrance upon an Examination of your Character, prevents every Difficulty in the Application of this Description. Your ~~PROFESSED PRINCIPLES~~ so perfectly coincide with every Idea it conveys, that no Man * “ WHOSE EVIL GENIUS HATH INTRODUCED HIM TO YOUR ACQUAINTANCE,” will hesitate a Moment to pronounce, “ THOU ART THE MAN.” — Had you presented yourself to the public Notice in your true Colour, and modestly disclaimed a Character which every Sentiment of your Heart contradicts,

* The Sentences marked with an Asterisk, are quoted from Mr. Calze's Letter to Lord Lyttelton.

dicts, you might have gained the Credit of Ingenu-
 nity, and in this SINGLE INSTANCE avoided every
 possible Suspicion of an Intention to deceive. Or
 had you been satisfied with escaping Infamy under
 the common Refuge of Adventurers of your Stamp,
 and enjoyed in silence the Safety of Insignificance,
 you might have delayed the Crisis of your Fate, and
 (till overtaken by the slow but certain Punishment
 which pursues you,) have sheltered yourself from
 public Shame and Disgrace. — But your ridiculous
 Pretension to the Qualities which belong to the Cha-
 racter of a Gentleman, and the Folly of passing your-
 self for a Man of Spirit, Sense and Honour, have
 exposed you to a Scrutiny, which, though your Con-
 science was silent, your Prudence should have taught
 you to avoid; for no Claim upon the Candour of
 the most candid to which you can pretend, will
 silence the Voice of Censure, nor prevent your being
 pointed out as an Object of Contempt and Detrac-
 tion to all Mankind.

I SHALL leave it to your Employers, to remark
 upon the absurd Extremity to which you carry the
 LICENCE of your Profession in the monstrous Pro-
 ductions of your Pencil; and if you can impress
 them with an Opinion of your Abilities, they shall
 not be undeceived by me; “*Qui vult decipi de-
 cipiatur.*” But if you expect the same Indulgence
 to the scandalous Productions of your Pen, and con-
 ceive the Abuse of your Superiors to be a Privilege
 of LIBERTY which you may indulge without Punish-
 ment or Restraint, you will find yourself miserably
 mistaken. Your Attack upon Lord Lyttelton, and
 your fullsome Panegyrick upon yourself, are a Satire
 upon the CREDULITY and an Insult upon the Dis-

CERNMENT of the Public, which every Reader of a News-Paper is concerned to resent, and for which you must not hope to escape with Impunity. You seem to have acted in this Matter upon the Idea of a vulgar Proverb, "Exchange is no Robbery;" for it is certain that you have ~~stretched~~ Lord Lyttelton's Character from your own Heart, and in return, have taken the Liberty to copy from his Lordship, the Picture you have exhibited for a Likeness of yourself. It is the allowed Privilege of a Painter to dignify or debase his Characters; the Magic of his Pencil may smooth the Wrinkles of Age, give Royalty to a Chimney-Sweeper, or Chastity to a Bawd; but as the Beauty, Virtue, and Honour he confers, have no Existence but in Chalk; so **"THE BIRTH, EDUCATION AND PRINCIPLE OF A GENTLEMAN,"* to which you arrogantly pretend, have never existed but in your own Imagination. You may therefore expect, that like the silly Bird in the Fable, you will be stripped of your stolen Plumage, and (if the odious Part of your Character can for a Moment be forgot) that you will furnish the Laugh of a Day, and be an Object for Boys to point at.

It is no Matter of Wonder, that Lord Lyttelton (though endowed with Abilities, and possessed of an Understanding superior to the Generality of his Equals in Rank and Fortune) should be addicted to the Foibles, or if you please, to the Vices common to his Age. The same Soil which produces the fairest Flowers, produces likewise the most luxuriant Weeds. But whatever Blame his Conduct may have incurred from the sober Part of Mankind, or whatever Vices have been imputed to him by the licentious Tongue of Envy; the slightest Reflection from YOUR Mouth betrays

betrays an unparalleled Impudence, and stamps your Character with Ingratitude. The Meaness of your Station, a Consciousness of the dissolute, selfish, and abandoned Principles by which your best Actions have been governed, and the numberless Obligations you owe to this Object of your Malevolence, condemn you to an eternal Silence upon the Subject of his Foibles. If indeed Lord Lyttelton * "INTRO-DUCED YOU TO ANY GENTLEMAN OF CHARACTER AS HIS FRIEND." it must be confessed, that he made a Sacrifice of his Prudence to his good Nature, and the Impropriety of such a Step, may justly be added to the Number of his Faults. A thoughtless Inattention to his own Credit may likewise be imputed to him for continuing his Patronage to a Wretch, who in every Instance, which ought to have recommended him, approved himself unworthy the Favours he received. But the VARIOUS CAPACITIES in which a Man of your TALENTS AND PRINCIPLES may be useful to a dissipated young Man of Fashion, accounts for, and in some Degree excuses his retaining you in his Suite. The superficial Instructions you had received in Painting, were very insufficient to recommend you to a Patron of the polite Arts; and if his Lordship had acted from no other Motive but a Sense of your Merit, you would still have occupied the Dunghill upon which you was born.

- You have great Reason to LAMENT his discarding you from his Service, but none to complain; had you acted with common Prudence or common Decency, you might still have enjoyed his Favour; and under so respectable a Patronage have attained to a Rank of Eminence in your Profession. Ever ready

to cherish the least Spark of Genius, and equally ready to relieve the Distresses of Mankind, his House might have been your Asylum, and his Liberality your Support. But there are Circumstances in which Humanity is Weakness; and if, upon this Principle, he had delayed your Dismission, or continued any longer to protect or recommend you, he must have departed from the * “First Principle of Nature, Self-Preservation,” very justly have incurred the Censure of the World, and fixed an indelible Stain upon his own Character.

BUT whether your Misconduct or his own Caprice was the Motive for banishing you from his House, is equally immaterial; for though his Suspicion of your Honesty had never been awakened by the Disappearance of his Cassette, — Though his Purse had never been emptied by your Conspiracy with Sharpers; — Though you had never traduced him to his Father, and by the most infamous and diabolical Misrepresentations, afflicted the worthiest of Men; — Though you had been free from the Vices peculiar to your Country, and possessed a Heart incapable of meditating the Assassination of your Benefactor; — what Claim could you even then have had upon his Generosity? would not his Will have been the only Law by which you could be admitted to his Favour, or excluded from his Bounty? — Had your Heart been composed of Materials susceptible of Gratitude, you would never have given him the smallest Offence; — if your Conscience retained the least Sensibility, you would long ago have supplicated his Pardon, and thrown yourself upon a Generosity, which in a thousand Instances you have formerly experienced. No obvious Reason occurs, upon which your
unnatural

unnatural Conduct is accountable; for though perfectly consistent with the PRINCIPLES, it is contrary to the POLICY, of a Villain, and would almost incline one to excuse your Heart at the Expence of your Head; but whoever judges you to be more Fool than Knave will be sure to pay you a Compliment which you neither desire nor deserve. You possibly remember the Motive which induced such another † Wretch as yourself to set fire to the Temple of Diana. And perhaps your little Soul moved by the same Ambition of Fame, may hope to be remembered, when the Greatness of Lord Lyttelton shall be a favourite Theme in the Annals of Britain. But whether this Compliment be paid to your Merit or not, it is certain that your Ingratitude, and your AVOWED Contempt of every virtuous Principle, give you an undoubted Right to have * “your Name written in Italics in the Catalogue of Monsters.”

THE professed Cause of your scurrilous Attack (I mean the Matter of Evidence delivered by his Lordship) needs very little Comment. The only Circumstance which you pretend to alledge against him, and for which you have dared to traduce him in Terms the most opprobrious, is a Declaration (the Truth of which no Man in his Senses will doubt) * “That you enlisted in his Train in a menial Capacity.” An Avowal of the contrary would have appeared so unbecoming his Rank, or so inconsistent with Probability, that his Spirit or his Veracity must have suffered in the Opinion of the Court. Besides your being admitted to the Station of an UPPER SERVANT in his Lordship's Family, instead of reflecting a Disgrace upon your Pretensions, conferred an Honour

and

† Erostratus.

and Advantage which I presume was at that Time above the Hopes of your Ambition. Far be it from me to subtract a Grain from your Merit, or to cast the Shadow of a Reflection upon your Character, because your Birth was not dignified with the Honour of a Pedigree, nor blessed with the Convenience of a Fortune; "*Nil refert quali sit quisque Parente natus, dum Ingenuus.*" But your presumptuous Claim to BIRTH, CHARACTER and EDUCATION, with which your Conduct is inconsistent, provokes Retrospection, and exposes the Meaness of an Origin, which would reflect Honour upon modest Merit, but by your Insolence and Vanity is converted into Shame and Reproach.

YOUR Absence from the Court when Lord Lyttelton delivered his Evidence, was attributed to * "Accident;" but your disappearing at that critical Minute, when your Interest was so materially concerned, when your Presence was absolutely necessary, and when your Reputation (if you had any to lose) was at Stake, is accountable upon a better Reason,—your Attention to the Duty of SELF-PRESERVATION. Fearful that Lord Lyttelton or another Evidence in that Cause would have given such Information as might affect your personal Safety, you thought it prudent to retire. Though it is more than probable (if his Lordship's Appearance had not occasioned your Flight) that you would never have exposed the Delicacy of your Ear to a Repetition of the disagreeable Truths, which, from the Knowledge of your own Baseness, you had Reason to apprehend would be produced against you. But whether your being spared was the Effect of Candour or Contempt, you had equal Reason to rejoice in the Event. And
instead

instead of insulting Lord Lyttelton for lessening your Character, or labouring to asperse a Name which never should escape your Lips but with Reverence, you ought to have blessed his Generosity, for bearing Testimony to the only Circumstance of your Life which can be mentioned to your Credit, --- that you had once the Honour of being employed in his SERVICE. ---

PERMIT me in this Place by way of Caution to the Public to recite a Circumstance PROVED TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE COURT on the Trial where this Evidence was given.

It appeared, that you painted a Picture for which you was very liberally paid by your Employer. This Picture was afterwards presented to a Lady, whose Friends had very materially served you by various Acts of Kindness. Having made some Improvement in your Profession, you with seeming Modesty criticized your own Performance, and offered to make such Alterations as would render the Picture more valuable to the Lady, and more creditable to yourself. But this Offer was positively refused from a Disinclination to subject herself either to Obligation or Expence. You then altered your Mode of Application, and assured her, that the only Motive to your Request was your own Credit and Reputation; that the Merit of the Picture was very unequal to the Price you had received; and if she suffered it to appear without allowing you to retouch and correct its Imperfections, it would discredit your Abilities, and very probably be a Prejudice to your Character as a Painter. This Argument was too art-ful

ful to be resisted by unsuspecting Good-nature. — You obtained the Picture,—made the Alterations,—and commenced an Action for the Recovery of a Demand, which had no other Foundation, but this Manceuvre of Genius. I should have suffered this Transaction to pass unnoticed, if the Plea of Necessity could be admitted in your Favour, or if this was the only Circumstance of the Kind which appears against you. But it is your COMMON TRICK. To conceal therefore so striking a Part of your Character would be injurious to the Public, and reproachful to myself.

THE following Anecdote contains another Proof, that you possess the PRINCIPLE OF A GENTLEMAN, and with great Propriety assume the Title of AN EMINENT ARTIST.

A Gentleman remarkable for his Hospitality to Strangers, and his Encouragement of Arts, had some Years ago the Misfortune to be seated near you at a public Table. As a Foreigner and a Painter you attracted his Notice; he invited you to his House, and you have frequently been heard to make honourable Mention of the Entertainment you received.—In the Course of Conversation which his Politeness turned upon the Subject of Painting, your Opinion was consulted upon a Picture, which you pronounced to be CAPITAL, but lamented the Condition in which it appeared. In the good Humour and Gaiety of Heart which Champaign inspires, you undertook WITHOUT ANY REWARD to restore its obscured Beauties. The Picture was sent to your House and the Operation performed: But when a few Years

Years had obliterated the Remembrance of the Gentleman's Hospitality, or probably not finding the Opportunities † of "MAKING SOMETHING OF HIM" to answer your Expectations, you applied for Payment of your Bill, which consisted of an exorbitant Demand for cleaning his Picture. Your Application being treated with the Contempt and Indignation it deserved, you brought an Action against him for the Debt, which was very lately, or I believe is even now depending.

A SIMILAR Instance of Finesse hath been practised upon Lord Lyttelton ; this, I presume, is one of the * " ANECDOTES WHICH YOU PROMISED SHOULD " ENTERTAIN THE PUBLIC WITH THEIR NOVELTY, AND " AWAKEN HIS LORDSHIP TO A SENSE OF SHAME." For your TRICK hath undoubtedly the Merit of Originality ; and if it is any Reproach to his Understanding to be outwitted by a Chevalier d'Industrie of your Abilities,—he may with Reason be ASHAMED.

THE Inconvenience which in every Respect you suffered from your Disgrace, and Dismission from his Service, had employed your Invention (from the Instant you became sensible of your Folly) to effect a Reconciliation, but finding yourself unsuccessful in every other Expedient, your last Resource was the Humanity of his Father. A Confession of your Ingratitude, Treachery, and Falsehood ; an affected

† Mr. Calze professes, that the Hopes of Advantage, or in his own words, "the Chance of making something of him," is the only Rule by which he estimates the Value of a Friend,

fected Contrition for your unexampled Baseness; and your requesting only to be re-admitted upon Probation, operated to your Wish, and obtained his Lordship's Intercession with his Son. Unable to refuse a Father's Request, you received his reluctant Permission to attend him. Your Motive for soliciting this Audience was explained by a pathetic Detail of Misfortunes, the Distress of your Circumstances, the Ruin of your Business, and the total Desertion of your Friends; which you feared was the Effect of his Displeasure, or occasioned by a Want of that Recommendation, and Protection, from which you had formerly conceived such flattering Expectations. — Penitence and Humility are irresistible to a generous Mind. Resentment gave Way to Compassion, and your Reception was favourable beyond your most sanguine Hopes. You was permitted to propose the Means by which he could serve you CONSISTENTLY WITH HIS UNALTERABLE RESOLUTION TO KEEP YOU FOR EVER AT A DISTANCE. "The Honour of a single Sitting" was the only Favour you presumed to ask. Astonished at your Moderation, and really disposed to render you some essential Service, he replied, that his Picture would at that Time be a useless Piece of Furniture, and at all Times a Thing upon which he should set very little Value. And as the Advantage would likewise be very inconsiderable to yourself, it would be a Point of Prudence to choose some other Method of employing his Interest in your Favour. But these Objections to your Request were instantly removed by an Assurance, that you had no Intention to tax his Generosity with the Price of a Picture, for that it would be doubly valuable in your own Possession as a Token of his Patronage and a Pledge of his Pardon.

Pardon. You confessed that your Credit with the World was insufficient to induce any ONE of your Employers to leave a Picture in your House for which you had received half the Price; a Custom which the State of your Finances obliged you to adopt. That his Portrait would therefore be an invaluable Acquisition, as it would enable you like other Painters to exhibit something to your Visitors, and effectually recommend you, by giving your Abilities the Sanction of his Judgment. Deceived by the Plausibility, and affected with the Circumstances of your Story, he consented to your Request; and the next Day you received the Honour of a Visit. The Opportunity of MAKING MONEY upon your favourite Plan was too promising to be lost. The Outline was immediately sketched, and to verify your Observation that his Portrait would be a valuable Acquisition,—without making any Demand,—without delivering,—or even finishing the Picture, you sued him for a Sum more than equal to the Price of any three Portraits you ever painted in your Life. — If any Man after reading these Circumstances admits you into his House, or ventures himself under your Roof, he deserves to run the Gantlet in Westminster-Hall, and to have LAWFUL PLUNDER marked upon his Purse. Examples to the same Purpose might be multiplied in which your Impositions have been passively submitted to; but as those which are quoted have been the Subjects of Litigation, they are proved upon indisputable Authority, and need no corroborating Instances to demonstrate your Ingenuity to the Public, or to point out the ART in which you most excel.

But

BUT to return to your Letter in which much more remains to be observed. * “ THE RESPECT, THE VENERATION ” which you express for the Memory of the LATE Lord Lyttelton, has been exemplified by a Proceeding which I shall relate without a Comment, and leave it to the Public to bestow the Applause which such an uncommon Expression of RESPECT and VENERATION deserves.—To account for your being at all noticed by so good a Man, it is here necessary to observe, that your Importation is a Blessing for which this Country is indebted to his Son. But the numberless Favours which this Circumstance alone induced him to bestow upon such a worthless Character, though a Motive of Admiration and Esteem is nevertheless a Subject of Regret; for if you had been left to yourself, you would long ago have been remanded “ TO THE PLACE FROM WHENCE YOU CAME ; ” and those with whom you have since been connected or acquainted have escaped the Contagion and Curse of your Society.—Idle, dissipated and extravagant in your Disposition, you was exposed to Distresses which his Bounty relieved.—Violent, cruel, and vindictive in your Temper, his Mediation and Influence were often interposed to rescue, or to shelter you from the Hands of Justice.—And to render his good Offices the more effectual, he employed you to paint or to copy Pictures which had no Merit or Value but what they received from a faint Resemblance of himself.—This Act of Benevolence was to you a two-fold Favour, for it not only diverted your Mind from its wicked Propensities, but afforded you likewise some little Means of Subsistence.—That his Lordship should have left you unpaid for any one of those Pictures is a Circumstance very incredible. It may with much greater Reason be presumed both
from

from YOUR Necessities and HIS generous Motive for employing you, that he rather anticipated than delayed his Payments. This however is a point which you disallow, I shall therefore at present avoid entering into the Argument, and proceed to the Manner of your Application to his Executor, and the Dexterity upon which you depend for the Proof of your Demand. — As a Dependent upon his Lordship's Bounty, you had great Cause to lament his Death; but the Tenderness of your Feelings will never disturb your Repose. Your first Idea was the Improvement of this last Opportunity of profiting by your deceased Benefactor. The only possible Means of accomplishing your Purpose, was the Pretence of a Debt. This Scheme was instantly adopted. A Demand for several Articles which YOU CHOSE SHOULD BE NAMELESS, was announced by an Action against his Lordship's Executor. You was then requested to deliver a specific Account of the Debt and it should immediately be discharged. This Request however reasonable it may seem, was repeatedly refused. And no other Satisfaction could by any Means be obtained, but a Declaration for a gross Sum which you might as easily, and perhaps as honestly have named five hundred Pounds as fifty. Your Unwillingness to deliver a State of your Demand was wholly unaccountable to the Friends of Lord Lyttelton, who wished to observe the same Punctuality in the Payment of his posthumous Debts, for which in his Life-time he was so deservedly honoured.

THE Explanation of this Mystery is a Task which your evil Genius hath reserved for me. The Boldness, or more properly the Impudence of your Attempt is so much above the Conception of common Honesty,

Honesty, that a Stranger to your general Character will not very easily be induced to believe what really was the Fact; — THAT FOR MANY MONTHS AFTER LORD LYTTTELTON'S DEATH, AND EVEN AFTER YOU HAD SUED HIS EXECUTOR, THE SUBJECT OF YOUR DEMAND WAS EITHER A NON-ENTITY OR SO LITTLE ADVANCED, AS TO HAVE BEEN THE LABOUR ONLY OF A FEW HOURS — This rendered it impossible to deliver an Account till you was able likewise to deliver the Picture, as it would have led to a Discovery infallibly destructive of your whole Plan. I would not for the Credit of my Veracity have ventured to repeat this villainous Transaction though authorized by my own Knowledge, unless the Truth of the Fact could likewise be ascertained by a Reference to your Proceedings in the Action, and to the Evidence of the Painter who assisted you in finishing the Picture. I shall only remark upon this Circumstance, that if you succeed in your Attempt, any Man may as safely entrust you with his \S HAND-WRITING, as with the Outline of his Face.

THE *HOSTILITIES which you say Lord Lyttelton hath "COMMENCED AGAINST YOUR REPUTATION" having been already explained, his * "INVASION OF YOUR PROPERTY" is the next Point which I shall proceed to state.

HAVING

\S Mr. Calze undertakes to imitate any Writing with such Exactness, that the Writer himself shall be unable to distinguish the Copy from the Original. And his Pretensions to this Talent have been fairly proved.

HAVING by the Artifice described in a former Page obtained the Favour of a Visit, and the Impression of Humanity being still fresh upon his Mind, he could not be insensible to the striking Difference between the Appearance of your House, and the State you had given of your Circumstances. In Reply to his Observation upon this Subject, you confessed, that he had discovered the true Source of your Misfortune, for that your Rent alone was a Burthen under which you must inevitably sink.—The Motive which brought him to your House, would not allow him to miss this Opportunity of displaying his Generosity, which no Mortal but yourself would have so basely abused. He offered to extricate you from this Difficulty, by taking it upon himself, till the Increase of your Business and the Improvement of your Circumstances should enable you to support an Expence, which you then professed yourself unable to bear. That whenever this should be the Case, he would readily restore it, and in the mean Time pay you likewise a full Interest for the Use of your Furniture. This proposal, you joyfully, and with proper Acknowledgements accepted. A Calculation of the Interest to be paid was then made from YOUR OWN ACCOUNT OF ITS VALUE, and a Minute of the Agreement instantly executed without the least Apprehension of Imposition. But a few Days discovered to his Surprise, that you had not only deceived him in your Account of the Rent, but that your Furniture likewise (as appeared by a regular Appraisement) was estimated in double its Value. The Reduction to which he thought himself fairly entitled from this Discovery; and your positively insisting upon the Letter of the Agreement, occasioned a Difference which is still undetermined in Westminster-Hall; and

the **INVASION OF YOUR PROPERTY** is an Idea which from this Circumstance alone you have foolishly conceived.—It must here be observed in your Favour, that whatever Advantages you have taken of his Lordship's Credulity he has no Right to complain. His Knowledge of your Character contained such a Caution, as should have shut his Eyes to every Appearance of Uprightness, and his Ears to every Profession of Honour, Honesty, or Truth. His former Experience should have taught him, that whenever you assume any one of these Virtues, it is nothing more than a Mask by which you hope more effectually to deceive. The Description of your Distress, like the Cries of a Crocodile, should have given the Alarm. And the Disposition of your Heart which he knew to be wicked, treacherous, and ungrateful, sufficiently apprized him, that like the frozen Viper, you would tear the Bosom which warmed into Life.

* "AS AN ARTIST YOU HAD STUDIED UNDER
SIGNIOR BALDRIGHI, AND WAS PATRONIZED BY
"THE DUKE OF PARMA."

SIGNIOR Baldrighi and the Duke of Parma! —
Rifum teneatis Annici? — as well might a Candle-
Snuffer at the Play-house pretend to have studied
Elocution at the Feet of Garrick, or the humble
Partakers of the Maundy Bounty boast the Patron-
age of George the Third. This however is a Folly
of so pardonable a Nature, that I shall pass it over
without any further Remark, and spare you the Mor-
tification which your Vanity would suffer from any
Reflections upon the Subject.

THE Indecency of your Behaviour to the Public, is the last Circumstance upon which (in the present Case) I shall trouble you with any Observation.— Whenever private Transactions or the Affairs of Individuals are intruded upon the public Attention, it can no otherwise be understood, but as an Appeal to the public Judgment. In this View your Conduct is censurable in the highest Degree. For if it be an Insult to private Judgment to be consulted in a Case where the Facts are concealed, upon which only an Opinion can be formed; the same Insolence offered to the Public, is rendered doubly criminal by the Extent of the Offence, and the Dignity of the Object offended. The Solemnity of an Appeal to the public Judgment, will always affect a modest Man under the most favourable Circumstances with Diffidence and Timidity. But you have proved yourself superior to these effeminate Sensations, by holding up your Hand like a hardened Offender, without Fear or Shame.

If your Allegations against Lord Lyttelton had been supported by the Evidence you promised to produce, it would doubtless have pleaded much in your Favour; and by the same Reason, your failing to authenticate any single Charge, or in any Manner to justify the Language in which those Allegations are expressed, hath aggravated the Heinousness of your Offence, and I doubt not convinced every reasonable Man, that your Letter is a base Aspersions of his Lordship's Character, and an insolent Attempt to mislead the Opinion of the Public. It may therefore be hoped, that the Odium and Reproach which your Accusations were intended to fix upon Lord Lyttelton, will be transferred to his false Accuser;
and

and the Punishment which hangs over your Head be in due Time inflicted, to the Satisfaction of his Lordship—to the Honour of the Law,—and with the Approbation of all Mankind,

BEFORE I conclude, you must allow me to obviate an Objection which you will probably oppose to some of the Cases recited in this Letter ;—That they are stated from private Conversation, and are therefore a Breach of Confidence. But if this Objection be admissible in the present Instance ; Honour must be an adverse Principle to Honesty or Justice ; and the Confession of a Thief may with good Reason be pleaded as a Bar to his Commitment.

IF you had continued to conceal your real Sentiments, and (as Prudence suggested to you at our first Introduction to each other) kept me in Ignorance of your true Character, I should still have believed you honest, and to this Hour have been your Friend. But having as you imagined, no further Occasion to continue this Deception, you re-assumed yourself ; and, (scouring every Idea of Principle,) professed what I most sincerely believe, “ That you never act from any Motive but Interest ; nor pursue your Interest under any Restraint but the Fear of being hanged.” And such is the Malignity of your Heart, that having extracted the Honey, nothing could content you but the Destruction of the Bee. To suffer you therefore to triumph undetected, was contrary to the Feelings of a Man, — inconsistent with the Respect which is due to the Public, — and a manifest Injustice to an injured Character, — Whether these Considerations are of greater Weight than the Confidence

fidence of a Sc——el is a Question upon which I shall chearfully commit myself to the Judgment of the Public.

I MIGHT now proceed with the various Matter which lies before me, and instead of presenting you with a Miniature, affright you with a whole length Figure of your Character. But having already trespassed much longer upon the Patience of my Readers than the Subject deserves, I shall leave you for the present to your Meditations, and reserve what remains, to be either published or suppressed, as you shall appear upon a short Probation to deserve Punishment or Indulgence.

F I N I S.

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